

Amendments to the Drawings:

A complete set of replacement Formal drawings is attached hereto. These drawings on six (6) sheets replace all the sheets of drawings in the application as filed. No new matter is added in these drawings as there are no changes to the drawings.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 36-62 and 87-88 remain pending in this Application. In the Office Action mailed on October 5, 2005, claims 36-47, 50-60, 87 and 88 were rejected. Claims 48, 49, 61 and 62 were objected to as depending from rejected claims. Certain features of the drawings are objected to as containing color. Attached hereto please find formal substitute drawings. Each of the rejections to the claims are addressed in turn below.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 52 and 54 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 87-88 were rejected for similar reasons. Applicants submit that the claims as amended overcome the claim rejections and respectfully request withdrawal of each rejection.

Claim Rejections – Claims 36-43, 50-53 and 55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b).

The Action states that 36-43, 50-53 and 55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Larson III (U.S. 5,229,933). Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as amended overcome the prior art. Applicants, therefore, submit that the rejection of claims 18, 26 and 29-33 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) over Larson should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – Claims 18-35; 46, 58 and 60; and 47 and 59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a).

Claims 18-35; 46, 58 and 60; and 47 and 59 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Larson in view of Law, Barthe and Ohtomo, respectively. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as amended overcome the prior art. Applicants, therefore, submit that the rejection of claims 18-35; 46, 58 and 60; and 47 and 59 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 103(a) over Larson in view of Law, Barthe and Ohtomo, respectively, should be withdrawn.

Conclusion


It is believed that all matters set forth in the Office action have been addressed. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claims 36-62 and 87-88.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Dated this January 5, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

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